

F1 *SpG1* 43. (Thrice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid

and an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a first signal to said network signaling a bid in response to an initial offer;

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said bid from said network and for sending an acknowledgement of said received bid to said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second signal until said second workstation receives a specific fourth signal;

said network sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation,

wherein at least one of said network, said first workstation, and said second workstation determines when one of said acknowledgements has not been received during an interval.

F2 *II* 50. (Twice Amended) The system according to claim 43, wherein said second

workstation further comprises

a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase relating to said bid was not completed upon the elapsed time measured by said confirmation timer exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

54. (Four Times Amended)

A method for acknowledging the receipt signals

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relating to bids and offers in an electronic trading system, said electronic trading system
including a network and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method
comprising the steps of:

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sending an offer from the first workstation to the network in response to an initial bid;
receiving the offer from said network at the second workstation;
sending from the second workstation to said network an acknowledgement of the receipt
of the offer;
sending from the network to the first and second workstations an indication that the
network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation; and
determining when said indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement
from said second workstation has not been received during an interval.

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56. (Thrice Amended) The method according to claim 54, wherein the step of
determining when said indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from
said second workstation has not been received during an interval comprises the steps of:

measuring an elapsed confirmation time from receiving the offer from the network at the
second workstation until the second work station receives from the network the indication that
the network received the acknowledgement of the transaction from the second workstation; and
storing an indication that the transaction is unconfirmed upon the measured elapsed
confirmation time exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

FS 5
59. (Four Times Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

receiving at a networked processor an offer from a first workstation in response to an initial bid;

sending the offer from the networked processor to a second workstation;

receiving an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the offer from the second workstation at the networked processor;

sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and

receiving an alarm from one of said workstations notifying said networked processor that said indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by one of said workstations during an interval.

FS 6
61. (Thrice Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 59 having further computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

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measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the offer at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the receipt of the offer from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the offer is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

SAC

62. (Four Times Amended) A workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the signals including at least a bid and an offer, the workstation connected to a network, said network connected to at least a second workstation, said workstation comprising:

a receiver for receiving an initial offer;

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a processor for processing said initial offer;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from said workstation receiving or sending one of specific signals until said workstation receives a corresponding different one of specific signals;

an output for outputting a first signal to said network, said first signal signaling a bid in response to said initial offer;

said receiver also receiving a second signal wherein said second signal indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of said first signal by said second workstation and a third signal when said acknowledgement was not received during an interval.

63. (Four Times Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising a bid and an offer comprising:

transmitting to a network an offer from a first workstation in response to a received initial bid;

receiving a first acknowledgement from said network indicating receipt of said offer;

measuring the time elapsed from reception of said first acknowledgement to reception of a second acknowledgement; and

receiving said second acknowledgement from said network indicating that a second workstation originating said initial bid has acknowledged said transmitted offer; and

receiving an alert from said network when said second acknowledgement has not been received during an interval.

64. (Twice Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 63, having further computer readable instructions comprising the step of: processing said second acknowledgement as an acceptance of said transmitted offer.

Sgt 67. (Thrice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a first signal to said network signaling a bid in response to an initial offer;

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said bid transmitted from said first workstation in response to said initial offer from over said network, said second workstation sending an acknowledgement of said bid received from said first workstation over said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second signal until said second workstation receives a specific fourth signal; and

said network sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;

wherein at least one of said network, said first work station, and said second work station determines when at least one of said acknowledgements has not been received during an interval.

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68. (Four Times Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid and an offer, the system comprising:

- a network connected to workstations;
- a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a first signal to said network signaling an offer in response to an initial bid;
- a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said offer from said network and for sending an acknowledgement of said received offer to said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second signal until said second workstation receives a specific fourth signal;
- said network sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;

wherein at least one of said network, said first workstation, and said second workstation determines when one of said acknowledgements has not been received during an interval.

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75. (Amended) The system according to claim 68, wherein said second workstation further comprises a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase relating to said offer was not completed upon the elapsed time measured by said confirmation timer exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

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79. (Twice Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt signals relating to bids and offers in an electronic trading system, said electronic trading system including a network and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

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sending a bid from the first workstation to the network in response to an initial offer;
receiving the bid from said network at the second workstation;
sending from the second workstation to said network an acknowledgement of the receipt of the bid;
sending from the network to the first and second workstations an indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation; and
determining when said indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation has not been received during an interval.

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81. (Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein the transaction messages relate to a transaction, said step of determining when said indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation has not been received during an interval comprises the steps of:

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Contd
measuring an elapsed confirmation time from receiving the bid from the network at the second workstation until the second work station receives from the network the indication that the network received the acknowledgement of the transaction from the second workstation; and
storing an indication that the transaction is unconfirmed upon the measured elapsed confirmation time exceeding a predetermined confirmation timeout period.

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84. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

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receiving at a networked processor a bid from a first workstation in response to an initial offer;

sending the bid from the networked processor to a second workstation;

receiving an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the bid from the second workstation at the networked processor;

sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and

receiving an alarm from one of said workstations notifying said network that said indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by said one of said workstations during an interval.

Pl 2

86. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 84 having further computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the bid at the networked processor from the first workstation until the networked processor receives the acknowledgement of the receipt of the bid from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the receipt of the bid is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

Sig II

87. (Twice Amended) A workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the signals including at least a bid and an offer, the workstation connected to a network, said network

connected to at least a second workstation, said workstation comprising:

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a receiver for receiving an initial bid;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from said workstation receiving or sending one of specific signals until said workstation receives a corresponding different one of specific signals;

an output for outputting a first signal to said network, said first signal signaling an offer in response to said initial bid,

said receiver also receiving a second signal wherein said second signal indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of said first signal by said second workstation and a third signal when said acknowledgement was not received during an interval.

88. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising an offer comprising:

transmitting to a network a bid from a first workstation in response to a received initial offer;

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CON* receiving a first acknowledgement from said network indicating receipt of said bid;

measuring the time elapsed from reception of said first acknowledgement to reception of a second acknowledgement; and

JY receiving said second acknowledgement from said network indicating that a second workstation originating said initial offer has acknowledged said transmitted bid; and

receiving an alert from said network when said second acknowledgement has not been received during an interval.

89. (Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 88, having further computer readable instructions comprising the step of:

processing said second acknowledgement as an acceptance of said transmitted bid.

Sig. 2 > 92. (Twice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or an offer, the system comprising:

Fig. 3 a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a first signal to said network signaling an offer in response to an initial bid;

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said offer transmitted from said first workstation in response to said initial bid from over said network, said second workstation sending an acknowledgement of said offer received from said first workstation over said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second signal until said second workstation receives a specific fourth signal;

said network sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation,

wherein at least one of said network, said first work station, and said second work station determines when at least one of said acknowledgements has not been received during an interval.

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G12 G10

93. (Twice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a second transaction message to said network in response to a first transaction message; and

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a third transaction message from said network indicative of said second transaction message and for sending an acknowledgement of said received third transaction message to said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said third message until said second workstation receives a specific fifth message;

said network sending at least a fourth transaction message to said first workstation and at least said fifth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least fourth and said at least fifth transaction messages indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;

wherein prior to the transmission of said second transaction message by said first workstation, said second workstation transmits said first transaction message to said network.

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97. (Amended) The system according to claim 93, said network generating and transmitting an acknowledgement of said first transaction message to said second workstation.

Sub G13 103. (Twice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or

PA5 an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a second transaction message to said network in response to a first transaction message; and

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a third transaction message from said network indicative of said second transaction message and for sending an acknowledgement of said received third transaction message to said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said third transaction message until said second workstation receives a specific fifth transaction message;

said network sending at least a fourth transaction message to said first workstation and at least said fifth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least fourth and said at least fifth transaction messages indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;

wherein said network further comprises:

a computer for matching at least bids or offers from said workstations in accordance with predetermined matching criteria;

an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second transaction message by said network from said first workstation until reception of said acknowledgement by said network from said second workstation; and

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a storage unit for storing an indication that a purchase was not acknowledged upon the elapsed time measured by said acknowledgement timer exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

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104. (Twice Amended) A method for acknowledging the receipt signals relating to at least bids or offers in an electronic trading system, said electronic trading system including a network and at least first and second workstations coupled to a network, the method comprising the steps of:

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- sending a first transaction message from the second workstation to the network;
- receiving an acknowledgement of the first transaction message from the network at the second workstation;
- sending a second transaction message from the first workstation to the network in response to the first transaction message;
- receiving the second transaction message from said network at the second workstation;
- sending from the second workstation to said network an acknowledgement of the receipt of the second transaction message;
- sending from the network to the first and second workstations an indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation; and
- determining when said indication that the network acknowledges the acknowledgement from said second workstation has not been received during an interval at said second workstation.

108. (Twice Amended) The method for acknowledging the receipt signals relating to at least bids or offers in an electronic trading system of Claim 106 further comprising the steps

of:

measuring an elapsed acknowledgement time from receiving the second transaction message at the network from the first workstation until the network receives the acknowledgement from the second workstation; and

storing an indication that the second transaction message transmitted to said second workstation is unacknowledged upon the measured elapsed acknowledgement time exceeding a predetermined acknowledgement timeout period.

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110. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

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- receiving at a networked processor a first transaction message from a second workstation;
- sending an acknowledgement of the first transaction message from the networked processor to the second workstation;
- receiving at the networked processor a second transaction message from a first workstation in response to the first transaction message;
- sending the second transaction message from the networked processor to the second workstation;
- receiving an acknowledgement of a transaction based on the second transaction message from the second workstation at the networked processor;
- sending from the networked processor to the first and second workstations an indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement of the transaction; and
- receiving an alarm from one of said workstations notifying said networked processor that said indication that the networked processor received the acknowledgement was not received by one of said workstations during an interval.

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112. (Twice Amended) A workstation participating in the exchange of signals, the

signals including at least a bid or an offer, the workstation connected to a network, said network

F18 connected to at least a second workstation, said workstation comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first transaction message;

a processor for processing said first transaction message;

a confirmation timer for measuring time elapsed from said workstation receiving or sending one of specific transaction messages until said workstation receives a corresponding different one of specific transaction messages; and

an output for outputting a first signal to said network, said first signal signaling a second transaction message in response to said first transaction message;

said receiver also receiving a third transaction message wherein said third transaction message indicates the acknowledgement of a receipt of said second transaction message by said second workstation and said receiver receiving an alert from said network when said network has not received the acknowledgement of said second transaction message after a predetermined interval.

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Cont

113. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps associated with a purchase comprising:

transmitting to a network a second transaction message from a first workstation in response to a received first transaction message;

receiving a first acknowledgement from said network indicating receipt of said second transaction message;

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Cont'd

measuring the time elapsed from reception of said first acknowledgement to reception of a second acknowledgement;

receiving said second acknowledgement from said network indicating that a second workstation originating said first transaction message has acknowledged said second transaction message; and

receiving an alert from said network when said network has not received the acknowledgement of said second transaction message after a predetermined interval.

II

114. (Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 113, having further computer readable instructions comprising the step of:

processing said second acknowledgement as an acceptance of a transaction relating to said second transaction message.

Seq 17

117. (Twice Amended) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid or an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a second transaction message to said network signaling a response to a first transaction message; and

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said second transaction message transmitted from said first workstation in response to said first transaction message from over said network, said second workstation sending an acknowledgement of said second transaction message received from said first workstation over said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from reception of said second transaction message until said second workstation receives a pre-determined fourth transaction message;

said network sending at least a third transaction message to said first workstation and at least said fourth transaction message to said second workstation, said at least third transaction message and said at least fourth transaction message indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation;

said network providing an alert when said acknowledgement has not been received after a predetermined interval.

Please add new claims 118-120 as follows:

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118. (New) The system according to claim 43, further comprising:

an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from said network receiving said first signal until said network receives said acknowledgement of said received bid from said second workstation.

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Contd 119. (New) The system according to claim 43, further comprising:

an acknowledgement timer for measuring the time elapsed from said network sending said second signal until said network receives said acknowledgement of said received bid from said second workstation.

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120. (New) A system for exchanging signals relating to at least a bid and an offer, the system comprising:

a network connected to workstations;

a first workstation of said workstations, said first workstation sending a first signal to said network signaling a bid in response to an initial offer; and

a second workstation of said workstations, said second workstation receiving a second signal indicative of said bid from said network and for sending an acknowledgement of said received bid to said network, said second workstation having a confirmation timer for measuring the time elapsed from sending said acknowledgement of said received bid until said second workstation receives a pre-determined fourth signal;

said network sending at least a third signal to said first workstation and at least said fourth signal to said second workstation, said at least third and said at least fourth signals indicating acknowledgement of said acknowledgement from said second workstation,

wherein at least one of said network, said first workstation, and said second workstation determines when one of said acknowledgements has not been received during an interval.